IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of the claims is provided in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121.

1. (currently amended) A method for producing an image from image data comprising:

accessing stored image data from a memory;

determining a pixel sampling rate for the image data;

comparing the pixel sampling rate to a desired sampling rate;

determining a shrink parameter based upon the comparison; and

processing the image data, including shrinking an input image based upon the shrink parameter.

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the desired sampling rate [[in]] is a Nyquist rate of sampling for the image.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the desired sampling rate is determined based at least on a point-spread function of the imaging system, or the frequency content of the image data.

4. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the pixel sampling rate is determined based upon a display field of view and a size of pixels in the field of view.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the shrink parameter is a ratio of the pixel sampling rate to the desired sampling rate when a redundancy metric is below a predetermined threshold.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the redundancy metric is the ratio of the pixel sampling rate to the desired sampling rate.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the threshold is unity.

8. (currently amended) A method for producing an image from image data comprising:

accessing stored image data from a memory;

determining a desired sampling rate for the image data;

determining a pixel sampling rate for the image data;

comparing the pixel sampling rate to the desired sampling rate to determine a redundancy metric; and

processing the image data based upon the redundancy metric.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the image data is processed by shrinking [[an]] the image defined by the data by a shrink parameter based upon the redundancy metric.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the shrink parameter is a ratio of the pixel sampling rate to the desired sampling rate when [[a]] the redundancy metric is below a predetermined threshold.

11. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the image data is processed by resampling the image data.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the image data is resampled to match the desired sampling rate.

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the desired sampling rate [[in]] is a Nyquist rate of sampling for the image.

14. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the desired sampling rate is determined based at least on a point-spread function of the imaging system, or the frequency content of the image data.

15. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the pixel sampling rate is determined based upon a display field of view and a size of pixels in the field of view.

16. (currently amended) [[The]] A system for processing image data, the system comprising:

a memory circuit for storing image data; and

a processing circuit for accessing the image data from the memory circuit, determining a desired sampling rate for the image data, determining a pixel sampling rate for the image data, comparing the pixel sampling rate to the desired sampling rate to determine a redundancy metric, and processing the image data based upon the redundancy metric.

17. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the processing circuit is configured to shrink an image defined by the data by a shrink parameter based upon the redundancy metric.

18. (currently amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the shrink parameter is a ratio of the pixel sampling rate to the desired sampling rate when [[a]] the redundancy metric is below a predetermined threshold.

19. (original) The system of claim 16, wherein the processing circuit is configured to process the image data by resampling the image data.

20. (original) The system of claim 19, wherein the image data is resampled to match the desired sampling rate.

21. (original) The system of claim 16, further comprising a data acquisition system.

22. (original) The system of claim 21, wherein the data acquisition system is selected from a group consisting of a CT system, an MRI system, an ultrasound system, an X-ray system, a tomosynthesis system, and a PET system.

23. (currently amended) A system for producing an image from image data comprising:

means for accessing stored image data from a memory;

means for determining a pixel sampling rate for the image data;

means for comparing the pixel sampling rate to a desired sampling rate;

means for determining a shrink parameter based upon the comparison; and

means for processing the image data, including shrinking an input image based upon the shrink parameter.

24. (currently amended) A system for producing an image from image data comprising:

means for accessing stored image data from a memory;

means for determining a desired sampling rate for the image data;

means for determining a pixel sampling rate for the image data;

means for comparing the pixel sampling rate to the desired sampling rate to determine a redundancy metric; and

means for processing the image data based upon the redundancy metric.

25. (currently amended) A ~~computer program~~ computer readable medium storing a computer program for producing an image from image data comprising:

~~at least one computer readable medium; and~~

code stored on the ~~at least one~~ computer readable medium encoding routines for accessing stored image data from a memory, determining a pixel sampling rate for the image data, comparing the pixel sampling rate to a desired sampling rate, determining a shrink parameter based upon the comparison, and processing the image data, including shrinking an input image based upon the shrink parameter.

26. (currently amended) A ~~computer program~~ computer readable medium storing a computer program for producing an image from image data comprising:

~~at least one computer readable medium; and~~

code stored on the ~~at least one~~ computer readable medium encoding routines for accessing stored image data from a memory, determining a desired sampling rate for the image data, determining a pixel sampling rate for the image data, comparing the pixel sampling rate to the desired sampling rate to determine a redundancy metric, and processing the image data based upon the redundancy metric.